

ESTABLISHED IN 1861

THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

OLDEST BEE PAPER IN AMERICA

Vol. XXVII.

CHICAGO, ILL., JANUARY 1, 1891.

No. 1.

ESTABLISHED IN 1861

THE AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

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THOMAS G. NEWMAN & SON

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Topics Presented this Week.

Always Wintered Well	24
Aplary of Wm. Stolley	17
Bay State Hive	25
Bee-Cellar for Winter	25
Bee-Hives for all Purposes	14
Bees as Protectors	12
Birthday Celebration	10
Brant Bee-Keeper's Convention	22
Breeding too Early	26
Chaff-Hives for Winter	26
Clipping the Wings of Queens	13
Convenient Carrier for Hives	16
Cuban Honey Yields	10
Different Races of Bees	10
Feeding Bees in the Cellar	14
Foul Brood Treatment	26
Foul Brood—Visit from the Inspector	18
Funny Side of Bee-Keeping.	11
Future Prospects	24
Good Air and Good Honey	10
Good-by, Old Year	10
Hives and other Fixtures	22
Honey Almanac for 1891	7
Honey as Medicine	10
Incorporation of N. A. B. K. A.	6
Indiana State Convention	9
Insuring Bees	26
Keeping Bees and Poultry	20
Large Increase	25
Life Members	11
Living in Hopes	24
Locating Queens After Dividing Colonies ..	15
Looking for a Better Crop	25
More than Pleased	24
Moving Bees—No Losses	14, 26
Old, but Young	25
Preparing Bees for Winter	11
Prize Essay on the Honey Bee	21
Queenless Colony	14
Report of the Season	24, 25
Review of German Periodicals	23
Ring Out, Wild Bells	7
Small Increase and Honey Crop	25
Some Apicultural Notes	16
The World's Fair	8
Use of Essays at Conventions	18
Watering-place for Bees	11
Wintry Beauty	9

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THOS. G. NEWMAN & SON

246 MADISON ST., CHICAGO, ILL.

Rates to Dealers.—On 10 or more copies, 25 per cent. discount, including the postage. If the dealer pays the transportation, 40 per cent. discount will be given.

Bees and Honey, or Management of an Apiary for Pleasure and Profit, by Thos. G. Newman. 250 pages—245 illustrations. Price, in cloth, \$1.00.

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The Apiary Register, by Thomas G. Newman.—A Record and Account Book for the Apiary, devoting two pages to each colony. Leather binding. The price for 50 colonies is \$1.00. For 100 colonies, \$1.25; 200 colonies, \$1.50.

Bee-Keepers' Convention Hand-Book, by Thomas G. Newman.—It contains the Parliamentary Law and Rules of Order for Bee-Conventions—also Constitution and By-Laws, with Subjects for Discussion. Price, 50 cents.

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A B C of Carp-Culture, by Milton P. Pierce.—It is of great value to all interested in carp-culture. 100 pages. Price, 40 cents.

Foul Brood, by A. R. Kohnke.—Origin, development and cure, as taught by the most noted apiarists in Germany. Price, 25 cents.

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Pocket Dictionary.—Always useful, and often indispensable. Price, 25 cents.

Kendall's Horse Book.—35 engravings—illustrating positions of sick horses, and treats on all diseases. Price, English or German, 25 cents.

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Silo and Silage, by Prof. A. J. Cook.—It gives the method in successful operation at the Michigan Agricultural College. Price, 25 cents.

Cheshire's treatment of Foul Brood.—Its cause and Prevention. Price, 10 cents.

Honey as Food and Medicine, by Thomas G. Newman.—In French. Price, 5 cents.

Langstroth on the Honey-Bee, revised by Charles Dadant.—It is entirely re-written and fully illustrated. Price, \$2.00.

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Quinby's New Bee-Keeping, by L. C. Root.—This is a new edition of Mr. M. Quinby's "Mysteries of Bee-Keeping," entirely re-written by his son-in-law. Price, \$1.50.

A B C of Strawberry Culture, by Messrs. T. B. Terry and A. I. Root.—It is for those beginning to grow strawberries. Price, 40 cents.

Historic.—A brief history of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association, and Reports of the first 20 Conventions. Price, 25 cents.

By-Laws.—For local Associations, with name of the Organization printed. \$2.00 per 100.

Ribbon Badges for Bee-Keepers, upon which is printed a large bee in gold. Price, 10 cents each. Large ones with rosette, 50 cents.

How I Produce Comb Honey, by George E. Hilton; 3d edition. Price, 5 cents.

Maple Sugar and the Sugar Bush, by Prof. A. J. Cook. Price, 40 cents.

A B C of Bee Culture, by A. I. Root.—A cyclopaedia of everything pertaining to the care of the honey-bee. Price, \$1.25.

Bee-Keeping for Profit, by Dr. G. L. Tinker.—It fully details the author's new system of producing honey. Price, 25 cents.

A Year Among the Bees, by Dr. C. C. Miller.—Chat about a season's work. Price, 50 cts.

Bee-Keeping.—Translation of Dzierzon's latest German book. Price, \$2.00; paper, \$1.50.

Thirty Years Among the Bees, by Henry Alley. Price, 50 cents.



THOMAS G. NEWMAN,
EDITOR.

Vol. XXVII. Jan. 1, 1891. No. 1.

Editorial Buzzings.

What shall the new year bring to thee?

Silver and gold?

Freedom from toil's grim bondage?


Pleasures untold?

Riches or love or laurels?

What e'er to thy lot be sent,

God grant the new year'll bring thee

Peace and a heart content!

"A Happy New Year" to you. Here we are, as bright as a new shining dollar, making our bow to you, dear reader. It is the same "old reliable" AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, but in a new dress of beautiful clear type, and with words as cheery and hopeful as ever, ready to begin another year of toil, and to enjoy with you the sweet counsel which has existed for over 17 years. Here is our  Let us "shake," and journey on together for another year.

To Show Appreciation for the good work we have done in the past, please to call the attention of your friends to our JOURNAL, and ask them to partake of the feast with you for 1891.

1891.—It is 30 years ago to-day since the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL was born—the first issue bearing date of January, 1861. Then it stood alone, as the only representative of apicultural literature—now it has many companions and helpers. On this, its 30th natal day, it salutes them all, as a parent caresses children, wishing them wealth and prosperity.

White Clover Honey is now in good demand almost everywhere.

Now is the time to join the National Bee-Keepers' Union. Send to this office for the necessary Blanks.

Correspondence on bee-matters is solicited. If you have anything worth writing about, send it along.

The Character and labors of the BEE JOURNAL for the past 30 years are the best guarantee we can offer for the future. The liberal patronage of the past, shows that our efforts have been appreciated. Such speak more eloquently than words can express.

Several bee-periodicals have not put in an appearance at this office for months. What is the matter? Are they among the dead or dying? Among them we may mention the *Western Apiarian*, the *Nebraska Bee-Keeper*, and the *White Mountain Apiarist*. Send them along, friends, if they are still published. We want to review them all.

Silo and Silage, by Prof. A. J. Cook, price 25 cents, is on our desk. It is a pamphlet of 50 pages, and nicely illustrated. More than 20,000 copies of it have been sold in less than two years. The Silo is a grand thing for the farmers. Prof. Cook has proved all that he states in his book, on his own farm. It is thoroughly practical, and every farmer should have a copy. It is for sale at this office.

That Incorporation.

The *Canadian Bee Journal* for Dec. 15, contains this item:

There is every prospect of the North American (late International) Bee-Keepers' Association becoming an incorporated body under the laws of the State of Illinois, in which case we do not see how it can well be called an International body. Is there no law by which its incorporation can be had at the hands of Congress, thus making it more what its name signifies?

We know of no way to incorporate any society other than under State laws. Then the incorporated society can do business in any State, Territory or Province.

Many of the fraternal insurance societies are incorporated in Massachusetts, and then do business in every State, as well as Canada and other countries. They have local societies everywhere, and these form grand bodies in the different States or Districts, and send delegates to them. The grand bodies also send representatives to the supreme body, which holds its annual meeting in different States, as previously arranged. This is much like what is contemplated by the incorporation of the N. A. B. K. A.

Lest some may think that the editor of the *AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL* influenced the decision of the committee (he being a member) to have the Association incorporated in Illinois, we desire to say that we steadily voted for Indiana, because the Association was born at Indianapolis.

The other two members of the committee voted for Chicago as "the place of business," and, of course, that settled it. The Convention, when hearing the report, made no suggestion as to any other place, and then we said nothing to influence it, one way or another. We say this to prevent any feeling about its being incorporated in Illinois. We opposed its location before the committee solely to prevent jealousy and trouble. The Convention settled the matter, and we bow to its decision.

White Clover Honey gives the most universal satisfaction. It varies in tint from the pure white to amber, according to the locality where it is produced. That from hillsides varies in color from that in valleys. Atmospheric conditions, soil and climate have much to do with its tint. Basswood honey is white, invariably. A correspondent in the *Indiana Farmer* has this to say about it:

I believe that white clover honey is best; not because it is the whitest, or has a better flavor; for to me basswood (linden) honey is the best flavored; and to others, raspberry, buckwheat, man-grove, orange, or some other honey is the best flavored. I have had hundreds of pounds of basswood honey that was whiter than any white clover honey I ever saw. But there is something in the composition of clover-honey that makes it more satisfying to the taste that I cannot describe, and is beyond the "ken" of science.

The Minnesota Bee-keepers' Association holds its next annual meeting with the State Horticultural Society, in Minneapolis, on Jan. 21, 1891. Every bee-keeper in the State should give at least one day to this meeting, if he is unable to attend the entire session of the Horticultural Society.

As Usual, Brother J. W. Winder, of Louisiana, has sent us a package of roses as a New Year's present from New Orleans. They bloomed out-of-doors, and their preserved fragrance filled the room when we opened the package. We hope Brother Winder may live to see many more "happy New Years," and also enjoy much fragrance from the beautiful flowers of "the sunny South." Thanks for the New Year's remembrance.

How do You Like our enlargement, new dress and general make-up? The progress of the *AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL* has been steadily forward. The present improvement will give it increased popularity.

Ring Out, Wild Bells.

ALFRED TENNYSON.

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying clouds, the frosty light :
The year is dying in the night ;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die !

Ring out the Old, ring in the New :
Ring, happy bells, across the snow :
The year is going, let him go ;
Ring out the False, ring in the True !

Ring out the slowly dying cause,
And ancient forms of party strife,
Ring in the nobler modes of life,
With sweeter manners, purer laws !

Ring out false pride in place and blood,
The civic slander and the spite ;
Ring in the love of truth and right,
Ring in the common law of good !

The Honey Almanac for 1891.

This is now published and ready for delivery. All orders in waiting have been filled, and new ones are solicited. It is printed on larger and better paper than last year, and is otherwise improved, but the prices will remain the same as before. A single copy will be mailed to any address for a nickel.

Among its new and interesting features are a statement of the virtues of the use of honey in cases of that dreadful scourge—*La Grippe*.

Besides the new illustrated pages for each month of the year 1891, it contains a calendar for a-year-and-a-half, ending with June, 1892, and a lovely full-page illustration.

Apiarists as well as others may well ask: "Who made the first Almanac?" So far as we know, the first Honey Almanac was issued by us over a year ago, and we expect to continue it as the years come and go, for it has earned its right to exist by the good it has already done in popularizing the use of honey, and bringing to the notice of thousands its excellent qualities, both for food and medicine.

In discussing the question of "Who first began to use a calendar?" Faith

Latimer makes the following very interesting remarks :

How did the old patriarchs reckon time? How did Methuselah know how to count his years and keep all his birthdays? The very earliest reckoning of time was night and day, from the darkness to the light, and the earliest that we know of counting the seasons was the promise to Noah that, while the earth remained, seed-time and harvest, cold and heat, Summer and Winter, should not cease.

Months naturally began to be counted by the changes of the moon. Do twelve moons make a year? Various nations have different times for the beginning of the year; the ancient Egyptians, Persians, Chaldeans, Syrians, and others began their year in what we call the month of September.

The ancient Jews began their civil year at the same time, but their religious year began in the Spring season. One of the oldest calendars in existence, except some dates cut on ancient stones, is one which was unburied at Pompeii. It is a square, with three columns on each of the four sides, each column, for a month, indicating the number of days, the length of day and night, and the holy or festival days in each month.

The Julian calendar, which was introduced by Julius Caesar, first reckoned the year as having 365 $\frac{1}{4}$ days. This was 46 years before the birth of Christ. Popes and councils have differed, while astronomers studied and calculated, and the common people had to accept their decisions, for they knew very little about it. Years, leap years and centuries went passing by, and it was not until printing had been discovered, and reading become more general that a calendar or almanac would have been of any use in ordinary households. It is supposed that the Arabs first used tables which represented almanacs as astronomical guides.

In the British Museum are some manuscript almanacs of the 14th century. A German astronomer, Purbach, is said to have made the first printed almanac, at Vienna, in 1457. That was before this country was discovered. We now have calendars and almanacs for every purpose of information and advertising.

We Club the American Bee Journal and the Illustrated Home Journal, one year for \$1.35. Both of these and Gleanings in Bee Culture for one year for \$2.15.

The World's Fair.—The President has issued his proclamation to the Nations of the Earth, inviting them to the World's Columbian Exposition.

Our friends all over the World will now take due notice, and send or bring an exhibit of bees, honey, and bee-appliances, so that there may be the largest and grandest exhibit of such ever seen in the World.

The proclamation contains the following paragraphs :

Now, therefore, I, Benjamin Harrison, President of the United States, by virtue of the authority vested in me by said act, do hereby declare and proclaim that such international exhibition will be opened on the first day of May, in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-three, in the city of Chicago, in the State of Illinois, and will not be closed before the last Thursday in October of the same year.

And in the name of the Government and of the people of the United States, I do hereby invite all the Nations of the Earth to take part in the commemoration of an event that is pre-eminent in human history, and of lasting interest to mankind by appointing representatives thereto, and sending such exhibits to the World's Columbian Exposition as will most fitly and fully illustrate their resources, their industries, and their progress in civilization.

The Demand for Honey exceeds the supply. There have been many inquiries of late at this office as to where comb-honey could be obtained. One person wanted a carload of white-clover honey. In Indianapolis the same state of affairs seems to exist. The *Indiana Farmer* says :

Comb-honey here is being retailed at 25 cents per pound. The demand for extracted-honey seems to be mostly for the one-pound can. Evidently these cans have gained a reputation that has come to stay.

Catalogues and Price-Lists for 1891, are received as follows :

G. B. Lewis Co., Watertown, Wis.—32 pages—Hives, Frames, Sections, etc.

S. F. & I. Trego, Swedonia, Ills.—6 pages—Italian Queens, Fowls, etc.

Echoes, a monthly heretofore published at Nevada, O., by Will M. Young, is dead. The editor, in his "valedictory," remarks as follows :

Last January we had the pleasure (?) of an acquaintance with that world-renowned leech, the "grip," and it fastened itself to our anatomy with a tenaciousness that would be commendable in a worthy cause, and this insidious enemy of mankind refuses to "let go." We believe this Winter in the "sunny South" will bring us out "right side up," therefore we have made arrangements to sojourn in that Winter resort, Jacksonville, Fla., until about May 1, and will start about the middle of December.

To our bee-keeping friends we will say: Whether we return North in the Spring to stay or not, we will not lose sight of the "busy bee." We expect to return to our home about May 1, and should we arrange to be absent the coming Summer, some one will have charge of our business here, and customers can get supplies as heretofore.

The acquaintances we have made through *Echoes* have been pleasant, and we expected to widen, considerably, our circle of friends through the same medium had we continued it. We feel thankful, friends, for your favors, and now as the publisher of *Echoes* we bid you adieu.

Some Expect to hear of heavy losses during the coming Winter; many colonies have gone into Winter quarters too light for safety, and will need feeding in early Spring.

Mr. J. C. Swaner, of Salt Lake City, Utah, has sent us his photograph, and it is placed into the office album with thanks.

Supply Dealers desiring to sell our book, "Bees and Honey," should write for terms before issuing their Catalogues.

The Bee Belt of Colorado is that portion of the Bear Creek Valley in Jefferson County, lying between the towns of Morrison and Littleton. There are fully 2,500 working colonies of bees in the district named.

WINTRY BEAUTY.

REV. W. F. CLARKE.

The frost-magician, wand in hand,
Has been abroad, I ween,
And conjured up, o'er all the land,
A perfect fairy scene.

The trees are silvored o'er, each spray
Hangs thick with pearly gems,
And queenly nature wears to-day,
A thousand diadems.

My Norway hedge appears a wall
Of alabaster white,
And near the gate, the poplars tall,
Are glistening with light.

The separate balsams grandly rise,
Like emerald pyramids,
The color softened, as in eyes
Half hid by drowsy lids.

The earth is robed in dazzling white,
As though a bridal dress
Made all things passing fair and bright
With virgin loveliness.

Behind my lively steed I ride
Along transfigured ways,
A crystal pavement, far and wide,
Traversed by merry sleighs.

The Russian palaces of ice,
Alhambra's halls so fair;
And magic scenes, wrought in a trice,
Can scarce with this compare.

Each blade of grass is diamond-tipped,
A brilliant silvery sheen
Has changed the shrubs the frost had nipped,
To white instead of green.

The fences glitter in the sun,
All silvored o'er with ice,
Hung with festoons and fringes, done
In many a quaint device.

Lattice and fret-work interlace
The leafless forest trees,
And diamonds drop from dancing sprays,
Stirred by the passing breeze.

O'er all a sky of cloudless blue—
Bright sunshine all around—
When Spring shall Nature's face renew,
Will beauty more abound?

O earth is lovely, even when
The wintry wind blows keen!
Beyond the power of tongue or pen
To paint the witching scene!
Guelph, Ont.

The Little Book, entitled "Honey and its Uses," by Mr. J. Dennler, of Enzheim, Alsace, Germany, has reached its fifth edition. It is very similar to ours, entitled "Honey as Food and Medicine."

Indiana State Convention.

The 11th annual meeting of the Indiana Bee-Keepers' Association will be held on Friday, Jan. 16, 1891, at 1 p.m., at Indianapolis. The programme is as follows:

1. Roll call.
2. President's Address.
3. A general talk on the past season, opened by Geo. P. Wilson, of Toll-Gate.
4. An object lesson, with hive, showing how to manipulate the brood-chamber, the honey-board, and the section-case, in securing comb-honey—Geo. C. Thompson, Southport.
5. "Economy in bee-culture;" including a description of his excellent double-walled hive—Jonas Scholl, Lyons Station.
6. "Some of the observations and experiences of a Switz county bee-keeper"—Robert Scott, Moorfield. Mr. Scott keeps bees in a bee-house, and warms the house artificially about every ten days in severe weather.
7. "Bee sheds and houses—how to make and use them"—Joseph Myers, Gray.
8. "Management of an apiary to secure straight combs and extracted-honey"—Walter S. Poulder, Indianapolis.
9. "Italian bees, and the proper method of shipping them." A letter from ex-Gov. Porter, Minister to Italy.
10. "How far can the 'let-alone' policy be carried with fair success in handling bees?"—R. S. Russell, Zionsville.
11. "The machinery and raw material best suited to manufacturing supplies"—Geo. C. Kirkpatrick, Portland.

Mr. Poulder has kindly agreed to exhibit at the meeting all kinds of hive-fixtures and appliances known to bee-keepers. No where in the State can one learn so much about practical bee-keeping in so short a time as at this State meeting. One-and-one-third rates will be granted by the Central Traffic Association, and bee-keepers throughout the State are cordially invited to attend.

G. C. THOMPSON, Sec., Southport, Ind.
E. H. COLLINS, Pres., Carmel, Ind.

We are Sorry to learn that Mr. C. J. Robinson has had another visit from *La Grippe*. We can fully sympathize with him—having had it for over three months last Winter.

Wavelets of News.

Good-By, Old Year.

Good-by, Old Year, good-by !
 With all your many cares !
 With all your hopes and fears !
 With all your joys and tears !
 Good-by, Old Year, good-by.

We do not bid thee stay,
 To us thou didst not bring
 So many a joyous thing,
 That we to thee should cling,
 The past is gone to-day.

—*Daily Journal.*

Honey as Medicine.

The public are waking up to the importance of honey as a remedy for ills that flesh is heir to. A boy comes regularly to our honey-house, saying, "I want some more honey for father." He says that honey is the best medicine for his lungs that he has ever had. Honey is in demand for the baby's sore mouth, sister's throat, and mother's cough, etc.

—*Mrs. L. Harrison in Prairie Farmer.*

Birthday Celebration.

The AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL celebrates its 30th anniversary with the opening of the coming volume, in January. It was started as a small monthly, octavo size, the first volume which we have. Now it is a quarto weekly of 16 pages; but Brother Newman announces in a late number that this excellent journal is to be enlarged to 32 pages weekly. It goes without saying that its present high standard—which is high enough—will be maintained.—*Lewiston, Maine, Journal.*

Different Races of Bees.

Dalmatian bees are easy to manage, and excel in making comb-honey. The Hymettus bees of Attica are much like Carniolans except in disposition. Palestines come from the Holy Land, and are often confused with Syrians, to which they are inferior. They use more propolis than any other variety, and are troubled with more laying workers, but are said to be even more beautiful than Cyprians. Egyptian bees, found in Egypt, Arabia, and Asia Minor, have yellow bands, and are smaller than Italians. Although they have long been domesticated in Egypt, where floating apiaries were common, they have been

found vicious by European bee-keepers who introduced them. Their cells are smaller than those of other species. Some naturalists believe yellow bees originated from them instead of from Syrians.—*Farm Life.*

Cuban Honey Yields.

From news which comes to us from Cuba, it is a wonderful honey country. The flow begins in December and lasts until May, and does not entirely cease at any season of the year. The honey produced is mainly extracted, of good quality for Southern honey, and sells at from 50 to 70 cents per gallon in New York city. The yields reported are some of them very large, as much as 150 to 200 pounds per colony, from apiaries ranging from 460 to 500 colonies.—*Rural Homes.*

Good Air and Good Honey.

My advice for ladies who are but sickly house-plants, is to engage in something that will call them outside into the bright sunshine. I know of nothing better calculated to interest and instruct, and at the same time to remunerate for labor bestowed, than bee-keeping and poultry-raising combined.

You cannot keep bees intelligently without becoming enthusiastic. It awakens a new field of thought never before dreamed of. It changes the despised weed into the wonderful honey-producing plant.

Take, for instance, the hoarhound; put the tiny flower under the magnifying-glass, and look at its wonderful structure and marvelous beauty! From this source alone, last year, my bees gave me a ton of honey!

Just for a moment think how much honey goes to waste each year for want of bees, intelligently managed, to gather it; and how many poor little childrer never so much as get a taste of the delicious, God-given sweet!

In the name of humanity, come outdoors, and help me work with the bees. I, too, used to be dyspeptic; did not know for years what it was to feel well. I have lived for months at a time on two scant meals a day, and that, too, when I had plenty. Now I believe I am considered the most robust woman of our town.

Thanks to active out-door exercise, and constant use of honey, for my good health, which I prize more highly than any other earthly blessing.—*Texas Farm and Ranch.*

The Funny Side of Bee-Keeping.

In our rambles among bee-keepers we find them a great deal like other mortals; made up of various emotions, and whenever we meet a number of them they are an agreeable and jolly crowd. Shall we so conduct our journal as to touch the various emotions, or touch only one, and that the bee-keeping taste? In other words, shall we make our bee paper especially for the bee-keeper of the family, or shall we make it distinctively a bee paper, but edit it in such a way as to interest the whole family? When a bee-keeper loses all of his bees and takes up some other occupation, but still subscribes for the bee paper, you may be sure that it interests the whole family. In the apiary are many humorous happenings. Shall we say anything about them in the bee paper, or shall we tell them to an unappreciative audience in *Puck* or *Judge*?—RAMBLER in the *Review*.

Watering-place for Bees.

I use a 10-gallon keg: bore a hole near the bottom, put in a faucet, then take a soft pine board about 2 ft. long, and with a hatchet I hack it all over on one side to make it as rough as possible. Set the keg on a block (a box will do) about 18 inches high. Now place one end of the board just beneath the faucet, and the other end in a very small trough. Fill up the keg; cover it well, so that no bees may fall in; turn the faucet so that it will drip just to suit. With this arrangement near, they do not trouble me much in the watering-trough, except on a very hot day, when a little coal-oil rubbed in the trough just above the water will keep them away. They will not go into a trough that is painted with coal tar inside.—ED. E. SMITH in *Gleanings*.

Two Boys and a Large Fire.

We have succeeded in arresting the boys who set fire to our shops last Spring. There were 2 of them. One is now at the State Industrial School at Waukesha. He made a full confession; and as soon as the other boy was arrested he also confessed, telling the same story as the boy at Waukesha. They say they simply wanted to see a great fire. One is 11 years of age, and the other is 13. I am very glad to know how the fire started, and to know it was not done through any enmity.—G. B. LEWIS & Co., in *Gleanings*.

Life Members.

New life-members are being continually added to the roll of the North American Bee-Keepers' Association, and so far we feel very much encouraged; and if this membership is to continue at the present rate, we shall keep on harping until the list is swelled to a respectable size.

Up to the date of the meeting at Keokuk, these two were the only life-members: D. A. Jones, Beeton, Ont.; Thomas G. Newman, Chicago, Ill.

The following is the list of names that have been handed in since, in the order of their receipt: A. I. Root, Medina, O.; E. R. Root, Medina, O.; J. T. Calvert, Medina, O.; Charles Dadant, Hamilton, Ill.; Eugene Secor, Forest City, Iowa; Dr. C. C. Miller, Marengo, Ill.; O. R. Coe, Windham, N. Y.

We trust that every bee-keeper who is interested in the highest welfare of his pursuit will at once send his name to the Secretary, Mr. C. P. Dadant, Hamilton, Ill. If you are unable to pay the amount now he will charge the same to you, and you will then be enrolled in the list as above. The above makes 10 names, and all that has been paid in is invested, and drawing 6 per cent interest.—*Gleanings*.

Preparing Bees for Winter.

The two most important points for successful wintering are, first, a rousing strong colony. Here is where the beginner is so liable to make a mistake by dividing until he has a number of weak colonies. Colonies that are not strong should be united rather than attempt to winter them separately. Before uniting them the poorest queens should be disposed of, and then allow the colony to remain quietly four or five days, after which the bees can be brushed off from the combs, in front of another colony, and by the aid of a little smoke they will become peaceable, hard-working citizens.

The second important point is to see that each colony has an abundance of stores. Each comb should be at least one-third filled with capped stores. Bees often starve to death in the midst of plenty; they consume the stores within their cluster, and as they cannot move to the adjoining combs during zero weather, they starve. Probably more bees perish from this cause, during the Winter season, than from all other causes combined.

Happily, by a little painstaking, we can apply the remedy. Confine the bees

on five or six combs, with the aid of a division-board, removing the combs that contain the least stores. If you have an extractor, you can extract the honey from these, and feed it back to the colony; but if you have no extractor, take good care of the surplus combs and honey, for next season's use, and feed the colony syrup.

Some recommend cutting holes in the combs to allow the bees to pass readily from one comb to another. I much prefer two or three sticks laid across the top of the frames, to hold the cushion up, which will have the desired effect.

Spread a piece of burlap over the frames, and fill the upper story and the space at the side of the division-board, with chaff or cut straw.

Do not, by any means, attempt to feed your bees in the open air. It will attract all the bees in the neighborhood, and break up in a general "scrap" amongst the bees.

Do not allow one drop of honey to be exposed to the bees, if you want to prevent robbing; keep a basin of water and a towel in the yard. Contract the entrance to about one inch now, but during the Winter months remove the entrance blocks entirely, for it is a well-established fact, amongst our most successful apiarists, that the combs keep drier, and the bees winter better with the entrance wide open.—*Walter S. Pouder, in the Indiana Farmer.*

Bees as Protectors.

In a fight they come out best every time. Whole armies and flotillas have been vanquished by these little foes. Peddlers, tramps and book agents leave on the double-quick when they treat bees uncivilly.

Our peach trees bore sparingly this season, as the frost on the fifth of May thinned them; what fruit there was being very large and fine. Thievish boys looked at them longingly, but there were those terrible bees underneath, and the peaches were left undisturbed.

Luscious Catawba grapes hung temptingly before the eye, but there was no one brave enough to face the music of humming bees.

Our Southern friends who raise water-melons, which are such a temptation to plantation negroes, should take the hint and place hives of bees among their melon vines. None of the woolly heads would venture there, no matter how thirsty they might be.—*Mrs. L. Harrison in the Prairie Farmer.*

The Standing Frame.

Captain Hetherington has from 3,000 to 4,000 colonies of bees, while P. H. Elwood, also of Otsego county, N. Y., and formerly his partner, has 1,300. They use the Quinby hive with the closed end standing frame. Many others in New York State, having from 400 to 500 colonies, use either this frame or the Hoffman partly closed end hanging frame.—*Farm and Home.*

Extracted-Honey is said to be gaining in favor in England. In our opinion it is only a question of time when the demand for comb-honey in this country will be less than at present. The buyer not only gets more honey when purchasing extracted-honey, even were the price the same, but avoids eating the wax, which is quite an annoyance to some.—*Exchange.*

I Expect to Pass through this world but once. If, therefore, there be any kindness I can show to any fellow-being, let me not defer or neglect it, for I will not pass this way again.—*Quaker Saying.*

Convention Notices.

☞ The Annual Meeting of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association, will be held in the city of St. Catharines, on the 7th and 8th of January. All interested in bee-keeping are cordially invited to attend.
W. COUSE, Sec., Streetsville, Ont.

☞ The Annual Meeting of the Indiana State Bee-Keepers' Association, will be held in the Agricultural Rooms, State House, Indianapolis, Jan. 16, 17, 1891. GEO. C. THOMPSON, Sec., Southport, Ind.

☞ The Annual Meeting of the Colorado State Bee-Keepers' Association, will be held Jan. 19, 20, on the Cor. 14th and Larimer Sts., Denver. The first session will begin promptly at 10 o'clock on the morning of the 19th. All interested in bee-keeping, especially strangers, are cordially invited to be present, and assist in the exercises.

E. MILLESON, Pres., Box 2522, Denver, Colo.

☞ The 22d Annual Meeting of the New York State Bee-Keepers' Association, will be held in Agricultural Hall, Albany, N. Y., on Jan. 22-24, 1891. Reduced Railroad Rates. Pay full fare to Albany, and we will give you return certificates over any road coming into Albany (except the Boston & Albany) at one-third of the regular fare. A cordial invitation is extended to all. Come and bring your friends with you. A complete programme will be published as soon as completed.

GEO. H. KNICKERBOCKER, Sec., Pine Plains, N. Y.

☞ The Annual Meeting of the Ohio State Bee-Keepers' Association, will be held in Toledo, O., on Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 10 and 11, 1891. Full particulars as to railroad and hotel rates, and place of meeting, will be given later. Let all interested in bee-keeping make an extra effort to be present on this occasion.

MISS DEMA BENNETT, Sec., Bedford, O.
DR. A. B. MASON, Pres.

☞ The Convention of the Eastern Iowa Bee-Keepers, will be held in the Dobson Town Clock Building, at Maquoketa, Iowa, Feb. 11, 12.
FRANK COVERDALE, Sec., Welton, Iowa.

☞ The 8th semi-annual meeting of the Susquehanna County Bee-Keepers' Association will be held at Montrose, Pa., on Thursday, May 7, 1891.
H. M. SEELEY, Sec., Harford, Pa.

Queries and Replies.

Clipping the Wings of Queens.

QUERY 746.—Please give your method of clipping the wings of queen-bees.—Lewis.

I let them be.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

I clip all queen's wings in my mind.—H. D. CUTTING.

I do not clip the wings of queen-bees.—J. P. H. BROWN.

We do not clip the queen's wings, but if it is thought necessary, clip the tip of both wings.—DADANT & SON.

O my! I always have the "buck ague" when I attempt it. Ask some one else.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

I catch the queen by the wings with the right hand, then with the left by the upper portion of the body and clip three-fourths of one of the large wings.—P. L. VIALLO.

My way of clipping a queen's wings is not to clip them at all. The queen and drone trap has made this a proceeding worse than useless.—C. H. DIBBEN.

Catch the queen by the wings, hold her by the head and thorax, between the thumb and fingers of the left hand, and cut off both wings on the left side with a pair of lace scissors.—C. C. MILLER.

With scissors in one hand take the queen by the thorax with the other, picking her up "head first" and then "clip." To catch her in a piece of netting is also a good way, as her wings will come through.—JAMES HEDDON.

I never clip queens' wings, so I have no method; but if I wanted to clip them, I should just do it, and let it go at that, using a pair of sharp scissors.—J. E. POND.

Take the wings between the thumb and forefinger of the left hand, place the blade of the knife (held in the right hand) on the wings, lower both hands close to the tops of the frames, and draw the knife until the queen falls. Have the blade of the knife very sharp. There will be no danger of cutting your fingers if you stop as soon as the queen falls.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

I hold one wing between the thumb and forefinger of my left hand, let the queen cling to the end of my middle finger, and with a pair of pocket-scissors

clip off about one-half of the large or front wing on the opposite side. I then put the queen on the comb whence it was taken, and return it to the hive.—M. MAHIN.

I catch the queen by the wings with the left hand. Then place her so that she rests on something with her feet, then by the use of the right hand clip her wings. I sometimes clip her wings as she walks on the comb, but it takes more time than to catch her, and I never lose queens when I catch them. The bees receive them all right when returned.—A. J. COOK.

Of late I hold the frame with the queen on in one hand, or rest one corner on something, and with the other hand (using a small pair of sharp pointed scissors) follow the queen as she walks over the comb, gently slipping one point under a wing, and clip it off without touching her with my fingers. If your hand is steady it is easily done.—EUGENE SECOR.

Take the queen up from the comb by the wings with the right hand. Then transfer to the left hand, placing the chest of the queen between the thumb and forefinger. With a pair of sharp pointed scissors clip one of the large wings lengthwise, taking off a little more than one-half of the feather edge. I regard the clipping off of one or both wings to mere stumps, as not only brutal, but decidedly bungling.—G. L. TINKER.

I seize the queen by the wings with the forefinger and thumb of my right hand, and sitting down I let her lay hold of the knee of my trousers with her feet, when I hold her gently by the thorax with the forefinger and thumb of my left hand, keeping her on my knee, and clip with my right hand, with a small scissors.—R. L. TAYLOR.

I clip the wings of my queens as early in the Spring as the weather will admit of the bees gathering pollen. Equipped with a revolving frame-holder and a small pair of scissors I proceed as follows: After the hive is opened, and the queen is discovered, the frame on which she is found is hung on the revolving frame-holder, so as to have both hands free. The queen is picked from the comb by clasping her wings between the right thumb and forefinger. She is now shifted to the thumb and forefinger of the left hand, where her legs are gently, but firmly held fast, now wait a minute for her to stop her fluttering, then with the scissors clip off half of one pair of her wings. Now release her on the comb

and wait until she becomes quiet before the frame is restored to its place in the hive. This precaution avoids all danger of "balling" of the queen. All persons who do not carry a *steady hand*, free from nervousness, had better let somebody else do the work. While holding a queen fast I have often seen danger of clipping off a leg, as she has a fashion of manipulating her supple limbs peculiar to her race. It is well to be on the lookout for a legerdemain sweep of a leg when the scissors are ready to snip off a wing.—G. W. DEMAREE.

Urgent Questions.

Queenless Colony.

I have one strong colony of Italian bees which drew out the queen dead on Dec. 11. What is best to do with it? Shake the bees off the frames on the first fine day we have in front of other colonies? or let them remain until I can furnish them a frame of brood? They are having a fine flight to-day, and it is very warm here. JOHN SUNDERMANN.

Huntington, Ind., Dec. 14, 1890.

[It will be useless to give the queenless colony a frame of brood until there are drones in the Spring, or at least until the drone-brood is capped. If the circumstances will permit, it would be desirable to unite the bees with a colony having a good queen. If not, then you will have to risk their wintering without a queen.—Ed.]

Feeding Bees in the Cellar.

Some of my neighbors have several colonies of bees that are nearly destitute of stores, can such colonies be fed with any certainty of success in the cellar? If so, give the *modus operandi*.

C. P. MCKINNON.

Bangor, Iowa, Dec. 15, 1890.

[The feeding should have been done in the Fall, when the bees would have capped it over. Now, it will be more risky. Sugar-candy may be placed over the frames, or sugar syrup be given in an inverted bottle, (with cloth tied over the mouth), and placed over the frames.

To make the candy, use 4 parts of coffee A sugar and 1 part of water;

simmer until it becomes quite hard on being cooled, mold it into frames 1 inch thick, and lay it over the frames, using sticks ($\frac{1}{2}$ inch square) underneath. Or you can mold it into brood-frames, tying hemp twine around the frames to hold the candy in place, and put it into the centre of the brood-chamber.—Ed.]

Bee-Hives for all Purposes.

I am, to use a Western phrase, a "tenderfoot" in the bee-business. Although I had kept bees in 1857 and 1870, in the Spring of 1890 I began again by buying 2 colonies, which increased to 8, one of which escaped to the woods during swarming, and on the last of August I bought 5 late swarms. By feeding these I have been able to put all my bees into the cellar for Winter in a good condition, yet, in the late swarms there seems to be a great many of them dead. I use the 10-frame Langstroth hives. What kind of hives are best for general use? I want to use them for extracted and comb honey.

MARK D. J. WATKINS.

Osakis, Minn., Dec. 14, 1890.

[For a beginner there is no better hive than the one you are using—the Langstroth. Experts use others to suit their fancy and capabilities, but for all purposes (and for novices especially) the Langstroth is unsurpassed.—Ed.]

Moving Bees.

I wish to move my hives about 400 yards from where they formerly stood. Will some one please tell me how to prevent the bees from flying back to the old place? I have been very much pleased with the BEE JOURNAL, and ILLUSTRATED HOME JOURNAL in the past, and when the announcement came that the former was to be enlarged and improved during the coming year, I wondered how it could be. Well! who can tell what stores of helpful knowledge one may find in these periodicals next year.

J. D. A. FISHER.

Faith, N. C., Dec. 20, 1890.

[Place a slanting piece of board on something over the entrances, so that when the bees come out, they will find something new, and then they will re-mark their location.—Ed.]

Topics of Interest.

Locating Queens after Dividing Colonies.

G. M. DOOLITTLE.

With your permission, Mr. Editor, I wish to say something further on the question under the above heading found on page 677, which query is No. 733. The question reads "If a colony is divided equally, and no queen seen, is there positive evidence to the apiarist by observing, from the outside, which half has the queen? If so, what is it? Of the 17 who answer this question, including the editor, 13 say there is evidence, while 4 say there usually is no such evidence.

Well, if this testimony had been given before a judge and jury, it would be a strange thing if the case were not decided according to the testimony given by the 13; yet, here is one of the few cases where, I believe, the majority are wrong, and to show wherein they are wrong is the object of this article.

At the outset, I ask, What we are to understand by the word "colony," and what its condition at time of dividing? After answering "Yes, sir," Mr. Heddon goes on to state that he answers it from the standpoint of a swarm, while the question, as well as the import of the same, goes to show that a swarm was not meant at all but a full colony.

Swarms are not usually divided unless two or more go together, for it is a rare thing, indeed, to see a swarm of bees from a single hive which is too large to work to advantage. Hundreds and thousands are too small, to where one is too large; so this is another evidence that a swarm was not meant by the word "colony." Having decided that the person who asked the question knew what he was talking about, when he said "colony," the next point we wish to know, in order to answer his question intelligibly, is what he wished to divide his colony for. As a rule there is only one object in dividing a colony, and that object is to procure an increase without having to wait and watch for natural swarms.

All the bee-books tell us that the best, if not the only time, to divide for increase, is at about the time of natural swarming, either just a little before the honey harvest, or immediately after it; the former having, by far, the most advocates. Now if we divide at this time or

times, in what condition do we find the colony?

If in a fit condition to divide, we shall have a hive full of bees and the combs filled with a little honey and much brood in all stages, so that in no case can either part, after division, be hopelessly queenless, and as far as my experience goes, it is a rare thing for bees to show this, "running around and flying from and to the hive" spoken of by the most of the 13 who answer the question in the affirmative, unless they are hopelessly queenless; and this was why I answered the question by saying, "Not usually."

In the last half of Brother Heddon's answer, where he interprets the question, as I consider rightly, it will be seen that he agrees with me when he says that a "queenless half will not act that way, provided they have plenty of young brood."

Mr. Mahin hits the nail square on the head in his answer by saying, "There is no evidence at all, provided both colonies have eggs and brood." If there are neither of these in any hive, whether divided or not, then the bees will show the restlessness spoken of by most of those answering in the affirmative; and this restlessness is so great that any one that looked at such a colony, only in a casual manner, could not help but notice that something was wrong.

When we come to take the queen away from a swarm or from any part of it, it cannot be kept in the hive at all, unless confined to the same, or unless brood in the unsealed form is given them, and it is often the case that they will return to their former location or to the parent colony even when unsealed brood is given.

A swarm without a queen is about the meanest thing to have anything to do with that I know of. Even if left on the old stand, they will scatter all about and try to go into any or all of the hives in the yard, raising a row generally.

Mrs. Harrison, in answering in the affirmative, gives a different view of the case from any of the other 13. While all the rest base their observations on the restless condition of the queenless part of the colony, she tells which part has the queen by its "greater activity."

We have been told for years that a colony having no queen will settle down into sluggishness, and that a queenless colony will gather little, if any, pollen. I do not find this to be the case in any event, and much less where the colony having no queen has plenty of brood to care for, as we have shown must be the case where dividing for increase.

If the part of the divided colony, which has no queen, is set on a new stand, then Mrs. Harrison's observations would be correct, regarding their quiet condition, after all of the old or field-bees had left this hive and returned to their old location; but if this moved-part had a queen, many of the bees would return to their old location, so that, in this case, the queenless part would show the most activity, for the part on the old stand will always show the most activity, whether having the old queen or not.

Where a colony has an old or failing queen, with very little brood in the hive, and much of that drone brood, then they will sometimes manifest the restlessness spoken of to some extent, should their queen be taken from them; but I claim that such a colony is not a suitable one to divide for increase.

Borodino, N. Y.

Some Apicultural Notes.

J. M. YOUNG.

During the bright weather of this month, the bees were out enjoying the warm sunshine.

Our experience in handling bees covers a period of nearly 20 years.

Our city, located on the Missouri River, has a population of nearly 9,000 inhabitants, and is the county-seat of Cass County, with good railroad facilities—the great B. & M. R. R., and the M. P. R. R., now under construction.

Bee-keepers throughout this vicinity prefer out-door wintering to any other method.

Experience teaches us that an apiary should be located on an eastern slope, with the hives fronting the east.

We prefer natural swarming to artificial, and always let the bees have their own way in this respect.

The $4\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{4}$ section suits us better than any other, from the fact that it holds just one pound.

Our comb-honey which was disposed of some time ago, sold readily at 17 cents per pound.

We sell most of our extracted-honey in quart fruit jars, and this is sold by going from house to house.

We live 30 miles south of Omaha, where there is always a good market for comb-honey, which is also very good for extracted-honey.

We always practice out-door wintering, from the fact that our bees have always been in chaff hives, made exactly to suit our ideas.

We always use a 2-story hive for extracting purposes, and never extract from anything but the upper story.

Our apiary is situated in the vicinity of large apple orchards, and near plenty of basswood timber and where plenty of white clover abounds. The bees stored last Spring large quantities of apple-bloom honey, so much so that the hives were chock full.

Plattsmouth, Nebr., Dec. 12, 1890.

A Convenient Carrier for Hives.

C. H. DIBBERN.

In August when the country was suffering under a severe drought, I feared that the white clover would be entirely burnt out, and that the honey prospects for the next year were not flattering. This, with the probability of having to feed a number of barrels of sugar to get the bees through the Winter, made the outlook for bee-keepers very gloomy. Some timely rains, however, revived the drooping vegetation, and gave the bees a fair supply and obviated feeding. In October we had copious rains and warm, growing weather, which brought the clover out again finely, so that the prospect for 1891 is very much improved.

CARRIER FOR HIVES.

I have now in use for the past 10 years, a very simple contrivance for carrying hives in and out of the cellar. It consists simply of two square hardwood sticks, a little longer than the hives, with pieces of stout cloth tacked between the ends. All you have to do is to remove the caps of the hives and slip the stick below the cleats on the hive, and carry them by taking hold of the middle of the cloth pieces. This pinches the sticks together, thus getting a firm grip on the hive, making it well nigh impossible to slip, even when carried up steep stairs. A prominent bee-keeper was visiting me last Spring when we were taking the bees out, and said it was the best thing for carrying hives he had ever seen. It is my own invention and I have never seen anything like it described in the bee-papers. Of course it takes 2 to carry a hive.

WHAT TO DO WINTER EVENINGS.

Study up the bee business. Get some of the standard works on bees. Be sure and read one good book on queen rearing, and determine to do better bee-keeping in 1891 than you have ever done before. Few have bees so good that they cannot be greatly improved. It is a fact that if

bees are left to themselves, they rapidly degenerate. It is only by persistently breeding from pure stock that we can make any headway, or even keep from going backwards. Most of us have plenty of empty hives and supplies, but very few of us have a surplus of bee knowledge. So let us read up and get ready for 1891.—*Western Plowman*.

Apiary, Management, and Honey Crop.

WM. STOLLEY.

I send you a picture of my apiary, as taken a few years ago. It is nearly a correct picture as it now stands.

The bee-shed proper is 8 feet wide, and the roof laps over about 2 feet. The

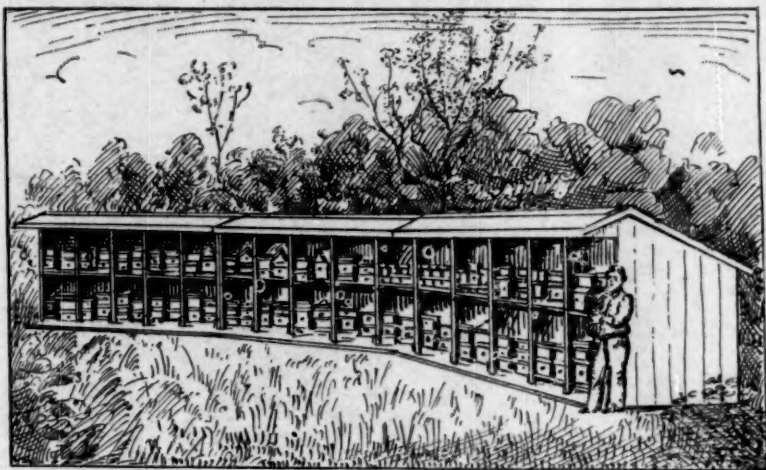
rear queens to supersede those which are too old, or not satisfactory otherwise.

Everything about the apiary is kept clean and nice, and all the hives are well painted with alternate white, blue, red, brown and yellow colors, and numbered.

Formerly I packed my bees in hay, but I have abandoned this, and the result is as satisfactory as though they had been packed. I never lost any in Winter in either way, so far.

I have but 26 colonies, all told; 5 of which I have in the new Heddon hives. The season of 1890 was not a good one. Excessive drought being the cause of the honey-crop failure.

I extracted 865 pounds of nice sweet and alfalfa clover honey, and took 84 one-pound sections from three of the Heddon hives.



Apiary of Wm. Stolley, Grand Island, Nebr.

posts, dividing the several apartments are only 6 feet apart, making the building 90 feet long.

For the Heddon hives I now have an extra vault, in which the hives occupied by bees remain permanently, Winter and Summer, and are packed with forest leaves in Winter.

I winter my bees in this shed, as you see them in the picture, only, that leaning boards, 24 inches wide by 6 feet long, are put up in front for protecting it against wind and snowdrifts.

All of my hives in the lower tier are double-walled, and besides lined between with heavy wallpaper.

The upper tier of hives are single-walled and lighter, and are used for nuclei in the proper season, wherein I

My bees are in excellent condition for wintering, and each colony has 27 pounds of Winter stores on an average. I also have 300 pounds more in frames for Spring feeding. They were packed inside the hive on Oct. 10.

The Sugar Beet Factory, although very near my apiary, has so far not damaged my bees.

They have been flying but little, even on warm days, and for the last week it has been 65° Fahr. every day in the shade.

Therefore I hope that this new and very important enterprise of beet sugar manufacturing will not seriously interfere with the prosperity of my bees in the future.

Grand Island, Nebr., Nov. 24, 1890.

Foul Brood—Visit from the Inspector.

D. CHALMERS.

The most dreadful disease amongst bee-keepers is known as foul brood; and although not of modern origin, yet it has become so prevalent that there was at the last meeting of the legislature an act passed for its suppression and the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association was authorized to appoint an inspector. At a directors' meeting in the Spring, Wm. McEvoy, of Woodburn, was appointed to the office for 1890, as he had had a good deal of experience with the malady.

He is paid by the Government, and any who desire his services, either for the inspection of his own or his neighbors' bees, must communicate with Mr. Allen Pringle, Selby, Ont., President of the Ontario Bee-Keepers' Association, under whose instructions the inspector acts.

Wednesday, Nov. 12, found him wending his way to my apiary; but as for the fact of who applied to the president to have him sent here, he and I are both ignorant. However, be it who it may, Mr. McEvoy and the writer had a good time, interchanging ideas—of which he is the possessor of many good ones—seemingly making no reserve, and readily admits when he is beaten. Of the hundreds of diseased colonies inspected this Summer, he has caused only 6 to be cremated.

When he visited me I told him that I would not allow any one to examine and inspect my whole apiary at this season of the year (as such would be to their injury), but would allow him to select and examine a few. He most readily admitted that I was right, but said also that orders are rushing in for him and the president sends him out, and what else could he do, but go? He only inspected one colony, in which I said dead brood had been found the last time they were examined, and in it he could find no trace of any disease. He and I pronounced the colony queenless on account of being somewhat weak; but the following day, being fine, found me giving them a close examination, and was astonished to find that the queen (which is one of this year) had commenced laying, the result, no doubt, of the previous day's excitement and had deposited eggs in fine regular order, in something like 8 square inches of worker comb, which would mean about 200 eggs; the chances are that the workers will eat those eggs, as it is not good for them to be breeding at this time of year. Mr. McEvoy promises another visit next

May or June if re-appointed (which by the way, he has a right to be, to give his theory a chance), and will then give a close inspection.

Should this dread disease be found at that season of the year there is time during the Summer to treat and cure it, but if found now nothing can be done to cure it; hence the lack of wisdom of sending for the inspector on the verge of Winter.

Poole, Ont.

The Use of Essays at Conventions.

DR. C. C. MILLER.

In his essay at the Keokuk Convention, Rev. W. F. Clarke, says I accused him of being long-winded. The statement came in such an official and circumstantial way that I was left in too dazed a condition to offer any refutation, although I am utterly innocent of the charge. I wonder if I have not in some way been mixed up with the "big doctor" that was there.

The incident, however, has set me to thinking in such a way as to use that essay as a text. I raise the question, not whether it was too long-winded, but whether it should have had any place at all on the programme? I do not raise any question as to the interest of the subject, nor as to the masterly manner in which it was handled. I do not think that Brother Clarke will think of it as a personal matter, and if I hold erroneous views, no one more ably than he will set me right. Lest any one else should think anything personal is involved, I will include in the same category the essays of Mr. Newman and Prof. Cook.

As some of the friends know, I am something of a prohibitionist as to the matter of essays at conventions. It is so hard to have them always right, that on the whole I think it is better never to have any. I hardly know of a quicker way to kill the usefulness of a convention than to fill up all the time with essays.

It is urged that essays are useful as introducing discussion, and those who urge this (notably Prof. Cook with whom I am scarcely on speaking terms on this subject) say that they should be short, and right to the point. If all essays were of this kind I do not know that I could hold my ground.

But now take Prof. Cook's essay. He cannot write upon a subject without making it interesting. It is not in him. But what was there to discuss in his

paper from which we could get any practical good? Was it not better fitted for the columns of one of our bee papers? And is not the same true of the other 2 essays?

I will tell you why I bring up this subject. In former years there was a feeling, that I think became pretty general, that essays at conventions had become decidedly objectionable, and they were largely abated.

It begins to look a little like a return to the former trouble, and I think it well to raise a protest. Indeed, there is some danger that the trouble may become greater than it ever was in the past. On the programme at Keokuk was a place for volunteer contributions, and I see the same is on the programme of the Michigan State Society. It did no harm at Keokuk, for only one paper came under that head, and that a thoroughly practical one with a purpose. But just see how it opens the flood-gates.

I ought to add that I do not hold the 3 friends mentioned as responsible. I suppose they merely did what they were asked to do. Some one may suggest that a little of the responsibility may have rested on my own shoulders. Well, I do not see that that makes the case any better.

THE NORTH AMERICAN.

Some pretty sharp criticism has been made as to the course of this Association, and a little of it may be deserved. I believe it will be a good thing to have all such things come out in open daylight. I am sure those who are in management—and I can speak quite freely, as I hold no office whatever—have no other desire than the greatest good to the greatest number. If in any respect there is need for improvement, I think that suggestions in that direction will not only be admitted, but welcomed in any of our papers.

There is room for strong hope that the North American, once incorporated, may become something stable and more useful than it has ever been. As to how it can do better work we have a subject well worthy of discussion.

Do not wait till the next meeting at Albany, but open the discussion now. Most of the things to be said about the North American Association and its conventions will apply to other associations and their conventions. These are becoming more common and more useful. The man who gives a single hint telling how an association can do more good or have better conventions is a public

benefactor. Bring on your suggestions or your criticisms.

Marengo, Ills.

[Again, Dr. Miller is not with the majority. So far as our experience goes, there never was such a demand for essays at conventions as there is at the present time. We have been solicited for many that we could not supply.

Some years ago, we partially favored the Doctor's "hobby," just to see how it worked. The result of a trial was, in our opinion, unfavorable in some cases; in others it was the opposite. It all depends upon the President. If he is a sharp parliamentarian, and will look up the subjects to be discussed; if he will hold the speakers to the points under consideration; if he will continue the discussion only as long as it is kept up to the interesting point, and then change it to another subject, promptly—then essays are not a necessity.

On the other hand, if he is not an adept in the art of presiding over a meeting; if he does not possess a good list of subjects to be discussed; if he does not hold the speakers within proper bounds; if he cannot personally keep up the interest, and periodically enthuse the audience with his personal magnetism—then essays are a great convenience, to say the least.

While it is true that those essays which call out the best discussion are the most desirable, it is also true that essays like that of Prof. A. J. Cook, at Keokuk (to which reference is made), are exceedingly interesting, and quite appropriate. To us, the Professor's essay was one of the most interesting that was there produced.

There is another point that we wish to briefly notice. The secretaries of the different Associations have been writing to prominent persons soliciting these essays, and dictating in almost every instance, the subject to be treated upon. Now, either these secretaries must be induced to reform, or the writers must refuse the urgent solicitations.

One thing is certain, those who have acceded to these requests, and have

devoted the time and energy to produce the essays, are entitled to *thanks* rather than even the slightest blame!

We are well aware that Dr. Miller did not intend to censure any one. He discussed the subject upon its merits; but still his condemnation is stamped upon the whole business.—Ed.]

Can a Woman Keep Bees and Poultry ?

MRS. WOODWORTH.

I see no reason why she cannot. I, for one, would like to know who raises the chickens that supply Rockford ?

I am sure that the greater part is raised by the women and children on the farms; for farmers, as a rule, have no time to fuss with such small things. He would think he could plow an acre of corn, while wasting his time fussing with an old hen.

So, who is it Rockford gets her supply of eggs and chickens from, if not from the wives and daughters of the farmers ?

I must say the little girl is far more regular and methodic in gathering or hunting the eggs and feeding the chickens than the little boy is. But I suppose it is natural. The boy always wants to do as papa does.

They never think of chickens nor eggs until they see them on the table in a luscious form of some kind—chicken pie, or baked chicken with gravy, or fried eggs with ham for breakfast. Is not that, gentlemen, the most satisfactory part in connection with chickens and eggs.

I can eat them, but they are too trifling for me to spend my time with. I could raise a horse with less trouble.

Now, about a man making a business of poultry raising. Why! he has capital, so has good houses and coops, and strength to keep them clean. He puts in all his time. He does not stop to wash the dishes, or make the bread. His produce he ships to the large cities. Rockford does not get much of it.

But by way of divergence, let me add, Rockford will soon be a large city. She is something like a motherly old hen herself, trying to spread out and brood all the ends and additions, until our very farms are being lost in the city. It will take a great many poultry-raisers to supply the market, if she keeps on booming.

This raising poultry as a side issue on a farm is quite different from making a

general business of it, and having everything handy and convenient. Give a woman the same advantage, and her strength being equal, I think she would be fully as successful at the business as a man.

But allow me to remark, the work of raising poultry and eggs, as usually done by women on a farm, would be much pleasanter, and I think just as profitable, if men would furnish houses and coops, and keep them clean, for most women have too many household cares to attend to everything properly, and a little assistance with the rough work would help them out amazingly.

Supposing you try it gentlemen. It will not take much time, "and there is no great loss without some small gain." It may not be in a pecuniary sense, but your wife will be better natured, and that is something.

As for keeping bees, I think a woman can do that just as well as a man, providing she has the inclination and a sufficient number of colonies to begin with.

She can purchase material for her hives ready prepared. She can nail them together herself, or she can hire a man to help her a day or two; it matters not how, only that she gets them made, then she can do the rest herself. It surely is not so hard as putting down a carpet, or churning.

As for painting, where is the woman that cannot paint a bee-hive, and decorate it, too, for that matter. As for the small fixtures, it is easy, light work; she can get every piece ready in the Winter and Spring, just as well as a man. She can have them placed into the cellar in the Fall, and carried out in the Spring. She can smoke them, and examine them. She can tell if they are queenless, and also knows if they are weak or strong.

She can divide the comb; she can feed them. She can tell a drone from a working-bee, or a queen-cell from other cells. She has all the supers ready, and can put them on at the right time. When they are about to swarm, she is on the watch. She has her hives all in readiness. She has her queen-cage ready, or divides the comb and cuts out the queen-cells, just as she feels about increasing or merely keeping her number good.

I enjoyed raising poultry, but bees are my favorites, and if I could give them my undivided attention, I think I could manage them as well as the average man. Of course they have a business end that we should be cautious of, but a woman need have no more fear of getting stung than a man. They are sharp,

but not sharpeners, and I fail to see why a woman with ordinary tact and skill, cannot make a success of bee-keeping as well as a man.—*Read at the Northern Illinois Convention.*

The Honey Bee—A Prize Essay.

MISS KATE RICHMOND.

In point of antiquity at least the bee is deserving of honor, since it in all probability, was a native of the garden of Eden. I wonder, in those halcyon days of the early purity and innocence of man, when the long and beautiful days must have seemed to the 2 human inhabitants an endless paradise of glorious Summer, if the beautiful silence was ever displaced, or perhaps, made more restful, by the "humming" of the bee, as it winged its drowsy flight from blossom to blossom gathering the honey that must have been spread with such a lavish hand in that queen of gardens. **

Amongst the ancient Egyptians, the bee was the hieroglyphical emblem of royalty. I do not know whether it became the emblem of royalty, to them, from the fact that something analogous to a monarchy, has frequently been erroneously supposed to exist in a bee-hive. True, there is one of the members of the hive known as the queen, who, at certain seasons, is the object of particular regard on the part of all the other members of the hive, but only because the instincts of all its members, are variously directed towards her, at that time, as one indispensable to the objects for which the bee community exists; but beyond the fact of having this attendance upon her, those, who make a study of the subject, tell us that there is no evidence whatever, of anything like authority exercised by the queen.

To modern nations the bee furnishes an example of all that is inspiring and patriotic. The patriotism is there at any rate. You do not find the members of a bee community taking exception to the way in which the affairs are managed. There is no clamoring for promotion, but each insect fills the place for which it was intended, without questioning. They all co-operate towards the common benefit of the community, and agree that "Union is strength," since in repelling invasion, or avenging aggression, the whole community become as one, inasmuch as their several energies are directed to the one object of the preservation of their hive. And as to the inspiration, no one can deny that an

interview with a bee that means business, is decidedly and intensely inspiring. The interviewer is inspired with feelings of——well, they need not be recounted here, as every one who has had the pleasure (?) of an interview with the bee, can supply the ellipsis to suit himself.

As a mathematician, the bee can prove Euclid mistaken, when he said "There is no royal road to learning" since it is a geometrician par excellence, and reached that state, too, without any of those weary interviews in which the human student questions the advisability and accuracy of the great mathematician's geometrical plans, but, in which the student invariably comes out second best.

Look, for example, at the mathematical ingenuity exhibited by the bee in the formation of the cells in the comb of the hive. They are hexagonal in form, the shape which, as every mathematician knows, will combine the greatest economy of space and material, since the hexagon being perfectly regular, there can, therefore, be no interstices between, and consequently every atom of space is economized.

Besides the hexagon, the bee constructs other mathematical figures of various forms that are necessary to the strength and continuance of the hive. And then in respect of the construction of these mathematical figures, the bee is always ahead of the human student again, for it never makes mistakes. All its proceedings are founded on sure and infallible principles, and you never find a bee unwise enough to question those principles. The bee furnishes a lively testimony to the proverb "Familiarity breeds contempt." With what supreme and wholesome contempt for the insect are you permeated after an interview, in which the bee, to say the least of it, has been decidedly familiar; and how feelingly you remark to yourself that you will keep it at a distance evermore.

What a lesson is furnished to us, too, in the provident industry of the bee. Observe, will you, how instinct, which is merely a blind impulse as far as the bee is concerned, leads it to provide for a possible future, to care for its young, to provide, in fact, in every way for the healthful continuance of the community; while man, whose superiority over the insect is asserted in the fact that he is provided by the Creator with reason, the noblest of all God's good gifts to man, will look upon to-day only as the day before to-morrow, and defer being prudent to old age, looking forward to a

promise of wisdom as a patron of his latter years, and who, when he arrives at old age, finds that his years have far outstripped his wisdom, and that he has now neither the opportunity nor the capability for the wisdom that might have been his portion had proper prudence been exercised in his earlier years.

In studying the habits and work of the bee, we cannot help referring the instinct shown in their work to a higher power, which makes the instinct subserve the highest ends for which it was created, and we must conclude also, that the Creator, in showing his perfect work in the bee, has also shown his perfect love to man. May we have in a measure the true philosophy displayed by that wise insect.

"Wiser far than human seer,
Yellow breeched philosopher:
Seeing only what is fair,
Sipping only what is sweet,
Thou dost mock at fate and care.
Leave the chaff and take the wheat.
When the fierce north western blast
Cools sea and land as far and fast,
Thou already slumberest deep:
Woe and want thou canst not outsleep:
Want and woe which tortures us,
Thy sleep makes ridiculous."

—Attwood Bee.

Hives and Other Fixtures.

C. A. BUNCH.

I am decidedly in favor of loose bottom-boards for hives, or, in other words, those not nailed to the brood-chamber. My reason for such, is that the brood-chamber is drier, for the moisture has a better chance to escape.

To make a hive-stand that has no superior for out-door wintering, I think the following a very good way: Make a box, the end pieces of 2x4, and the side pieces of 1x4 inch boards; the outside dimensions of this stand must be the same as the outside of the bottom-board, which is to be nailed on the underside of the bottom-board, and must be from 4 to 6 inches longer than the hive, for the bees to alight on, and one inch wider than the inside of the hive.

The lower inside and back end of the brood-chamber is rabbeted together, so that the sides and back end will project over the bottom-board, which is a great benefit to the lower edge of the brood-chamber, also the bottom-board.

Now, what I like about this hive-stand is that it leaves no place for toads to get under, neither can cold winds nor frosts

penetrate it; and as the stand and bottom-board are the first of a hive, to give away, we can get a new one occasionally, if needed.

Good substantial hives, or cheap ones, made of $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch lumber, are in great demand, particularly now that honey is so very cheap.

But, as for myself, I do not want any more of them. Why? Because they do not protect the bees from the hot sun as they should in Summer, nor are they what they should be for out-door wintering, unless you use an outside wintering case; and I, for one, have no use for such traps, although as far as my experience goes in wintering bees, I would say they are good for that purpose, but the outside cases are sure to cost considerable. I think there is as much prospect of their coming into general use as some of the swarm-hivers, and other bee-fixtures.

A hive that gives the best of satisfaction to me, for a Summer and Winter hive, is made as follows: Make the brood-chamber, sides and ends, of $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch pine plank, and the supers of $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch lumber. I use chaff packing above for wintering.

These hives are intended for wintering bees at the North while still on the Summer stands. I have never wintered bees in the cellar.

Do bees get drunk? Last Summer, when mowing weeds, I struck a stalk of globe thistles, or Chapman honey-plant, as it is called, whose flowers were covered with bees. These fell upon the ground, and sat or laid as if they were intoxicated. I have heard of similar cases before. Is this plant good for honey?

Nye, Ind.

Brant Bee-Keepers' Convention.

D. ANGUISH, SEC.

The fifth annual meeting of the Brant Bee-Keepers' Association was held at Brantford, on Saturday, Nov. 22, 1890. Present—D. Anguish, J. R. Howell and wife, Thomas Burket and wife, Cyrus Kitchen and wife, Miss Bowers, Miss Ash, George Barber, C. Edmonson, G. Springsted, C. Flanders, A. McMeans, A. Malcolm, C. Ramey, S. Dickey, F. Pipe, C. Johnson, R. Tallor, T. Ivoy, Miss E. Ramey, Miss Harley, W. Phillips, L. Petery, Mr. Steadman, R. Shellington, and Mr. Horseman.

The report of the Secretary was read and adopted, and the following officers

were elected for the coming year: President, G. Barber; Vice-President, Miss Ash; Secretary-Treasurer, D. Anguish.

The essays read were, "Apiarian Exhibits," by G. Barber. "The Best Method of Wintering Bees," by D. Anguish. Mr. C. Edmonson was to have read an essay on "Which was the most Profitable, Comb or Extracted Honey?" but not having prepared it, he addressed the meeting, and told them what his experience had been.

It was brought out in the discussion, that the public looked upon and believed that honey, when candied, is adulterated with sugar; but that was a mistake, the majority of the members preferred it to become candied.

The meeting was a profitable one to those who were present. The attendance was greater than ever before, and many enrolled themselves as members.

The retiring President, Mr. J. R. Howell, was appointed a delegate to the Ontario Association. He thanked the members for the honor conferred upon him, and gave them some good, sound, practical advice, in regard to their Association.—*Canadian Bee Journal*.

Review of German Bee Periodicals.

J. DENNLER.

Die Bienenpflege (Wurtemberg). No. 10 contains a report of M. Baelz to the Strasburg Congress on "Our Work and our Duty." The learned writer first refers to the different apicultural works, the difficulties encountered by the bee-keeper, not only from neighbors, but also from the local authorities and others, the competition which various substances having the designation of honey make with our flower honey, &c., and lastly, he proposes to submit to the government an Act which would have the effect of protecting apiculture, and more especially the product of the bees.

In the same number is published a concise report of the congress of German and Austrian bee-keepers at Gratz, in Austria, which states that the exhibition was a poor one, and that lectures were given by MM. Vogel, Ambrozie, Bendu, Spiess, Kultenegger, Glock, and Mayer. Dr. Von Beck, of Vienna, was elected Vice-President. The next congress, in 1891, will take place in Lubeck, and in 1892 at Budapest. The bee-season has been a very poor one in Wurtemberg. It may be summed up in these words: Many swarms, and little, or hardly any, honey.

Die Bien und ihre Jucht (Grand Duchy of Baden). The annual general meeting of the Society was held this year at Hurlach, in the beautiful valley of the Kinzig, and was a complete success. Amongst the subjects discussed should be mentioned that referring to heating hives in Winter and Spring, a system originated, and so warmly advocated, by Pastor Weygandt, of Hess. To pay proper attention to the bees, and to guard against losses, was the opinion of all the speakers.

The President, who had tried the heating system last Winter, said that brood-rearing is commenced too soon, and young bees, not able to get out, die. The stove "Carbon-Natron-Ofen" does not answer the purpose properly, and the American slow-combustion stoves give off too much heat.

Husser, who had also tried this system, says the queens become exhausted too soon, and that the consumption of food is no less than without the heating. In adopting the heating system, the bee-keeper becomes the slave of his bees.

MM. Weiss and Schofflin-Lauger also spoke against heating.

M. Weiss, of Karlsruhe, said that the essential requisites for good wintering were a numerous population, a young queen, wholesome food, and a good hive.

Nordlinger Bienenzeitung. Editor, Vogel, in a lengthy report recommends willows as bee-plants, which supply a good deal of honey and pollen in the Spring. The writer gives a list of 35 different species of willows.


Schlesische Bienenzeitung (Prussia). Thelse recommends *Trifolium incarnatum* as an excellent bee-plant. This clover attains to 3 feet in height, or even more, and yields a good nutritious and abundant forage for cattle. It is sown in April, and it is harvested in July and August. It may also be sown in Summer and cut in the Autumn, or sown in Autumn and cut in Spring.

Der Schlische Traker (Austria). The editor recommends a swarm-catcher, which has been improved by Junginger. An extract from the weekly medical journal of Prague recommends stings of bees as an excellent remedy for rheumatism. An Austrian bee-keeper has just invented a brood comb made of tin, having cells the natural size.

Munchener Bienenzeitung. The Munich Exposition, called "Octoberfest-Anstellung," which takes place every year in the month of October, was this year very fine. Bee-keeping was also well represented.—*British Bee Journal*.

CONVENTION DIRECTORY.*Time and place of meeting.*

1891.
 Jan. 7, 8.—Ontario, at St. Catharines, Ont.
 W. Couse, Sec., Streetsville, Ont.
 Jan. 16, 17.—Indiana State, at Indianapolis, Ind.
 Geo. C. Thompson, Sec., Southport, Ind.
 Jan. 19, 20.—Colorado State, at Denver, Colo.
 E. Milleson, Pres., Box 2522, Denver, Colo.
 Jan. 22-24.—New York State, at Albany, N. Y.
 Geo. H. Knickerbocker, Sec., Pine Plains, N. Y.
 Feb. 10, 11.—Ohio State, at Toledo, O.
 Miss Dema Bennett, Sec., Bedford, O.
 Feb. 11, 12.—Eastern Iowa, at Maquoketa, Iowa.
 Frank Coverdale, Sec., Welton, Iowa.
 May 7.—Susquehanna County, at Montrose, Pa.
 H. M. Seeley, Sec., Harford, Pa.

 In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of the time and the place of each future meeting.—THE EDITOR.

North American Bee-Keepers' Association

PRESIDENT—P. H. Elwood, Starkville, N. Y.
 SECRETARY—C. P. Dadant, Hamilton, Ills.

National Bee-Keepers' Union.

PRESIDENT—James Heddon, Dowagiac, Mich.
 SEC'Y AND MANAGER—T. G. Newman, Chicago.

Bee and Honey Gossip.**More than Pleased.**

I am more than pleased to learn that the New Year will see the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL enlarged. Although chock full of good and interesting things heretofore, I am fully convinced that the bee-keeping public, especially beginners, will be more than benefited by the additional hints and helps which is to be part of each number. J. H. BLANKEN.

Jersey City, N. J., Dec. 14, 1890.

Living in Hopes.

I had 17 colonies last Spring, and buying one more, I had 18 to place on the stands, and as they all seemed to be in good working condition, I was expecting a good honey-flow, but just as the bees were about ready to swarm, in apple bloom, a cold, wet spell set in, and some of them commenced to starve. I had to feed 2 colonies. There was an abundance of flowers, but there seemed to be no nectar of any account. I was thinking, when buckwheat came in bloom, there would still be a good honey-flow, but it was just the same, I did not get but about 50 pounds of honey in one-pound sections, which sold for 25 cents

per pound. Most of my colonies appear to have enough honey for Winter. My bees did not swarm, but killed off the drones. As soon as that cold spell came my Italians gathered the most honey. I hope next Summer we will have a better honey-flow. I always live in hopes, and a word for the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, I would not be without it, as it is the most interesting paper I ever read on bee-culture. H. H. ARNOLD.

Maze, Pa., Dec. 22, 1890.

Always Wintered Well.

I have 5 colonies of bees, which gave 7 swarms last spring. Eleven of these I packed with chaff $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, also packing it 5 or 6 inches over the top. I put a piece of burlap over the brood-frame to keep the dirt out, and my bees always winter well. Last Winter one of my colonies died, and on examination found the hive full of bees and honey, and this Winter I have one very nearly in the same condition. This I have left on the Summer stand without any covering. The honey crop has been a very poor one here this season.

TELAH C. WHITING.

Athens, N. Y., Dec. 19, 1890.

Future Prospects.

Being obliged to be away from home much of the time, my bees, not receiving the care they ought to have had, have taken "French leave" during swarming, so that last year out of 13 colonies I had but 4 new swarms, making 17 colonies in all, which I hope will be increased in the future. I obtained about 150 pounds of honey this year. I am somewhat advanced in years, 72 years old, yet not too old to plan for the future. DR. P. W. SCHMIDT.

Ottawa Station, Mich., Dec. 20, 1890.

Report of the Season.

Last Spring I began with 100 colonies of Italian bees, which have increased to 135 by natural swarming. They commenced work as if they intended to do great things in the way of gathering nectar and pollen. But, alas! a cold wave struck this part of Indiana, and blasted all our hopes of getting any honey from fruit bloom. The colonies nearly ceased brood rearing, so that by the time white clover made its appearance, though very plentiful, they were not strong enough to utilize it to any advantage in gathering for a surplus

crop, as there seemed to be but little honey in the bloom, while the linden gave but a small supply. Swarming was very light. The Fall crop would have been good, but for the cold weather which caused the bees to remain in their hives a greater part of the time. Yet, notwithstanding this, they seem to be in a very good condition for Winter. My crop for 1890 is 800 pounds. I placed 124 colonies in the cellar, and hope to have a good season next year.

DANIEL WHITMER.

South Bend, Ind., Dec. 17, 1890.

Large Increase.

Last Spring I had 30 colonies of bees, most of them very light, which I fed. These increased to 80. From them I obtained but 200 pounds of honey. Was it because they swarmed so much? I am at a loss to know how to obtain comb-honey from the old colonies. I put on sections at different times during the Summer, and obtained only 20 filled sections.

E. COOK.

Cataraqui, Ont., Dec. 15, 1890.

[The large increase was at the expense of the honey. You must not expect both honey and increase at the same time in profusion. The increase was not necessarily the result of the feeding. The undesired swarms should have been returned to the parent colonies—so that they might have been well supplied with bees to gather the honey when the harvest came. The colonies were probably too weak in numbers to gather the honey—having spent their energies in swarming.—Ed.]

Bee-Cellar for Winter.

For several years I practiced in-door wintering in a cellar under a dwelling house. The hives were usually placed in there about the last of December. It is a great mistake to place them in the cellar too early in the season, as there is no brood in the hives to become chilled, and the bees are abundantly able to take care of themselves. Also, they may possibly get several flights during the month. After they are placed in the cellar, keep the entrances open full width, and the temperature between 38° and 44°. Too warm a temperature will cause uneasiness, and too much cold, action and roaring. Dampness is less to be feared than cold. My best success in wintering was in a cellar that contained water all

Winter. Pleasant odors of fruit kept in the same cellar with the bees, are liable to cause early brood-rearing.

Lockwood, N. Y.

J. H. ANDRE.

Bay State Hive.

The hive I use is very much like the Bay State hive, and I think it is the best and cheapest in existence for wintering on the Summer stands. I have also used "the twin hive," that is, I put a division-board in the middle, and have a colony on each side of it. One entrance faces the east, and the other the west. This is very good for Winter, but is rather cumbersome when I want to move it. Closed-end frames are much used in New York State.

J. H. BLANKEN.

Jersey City, N. J., Dec. 20, 1890.

Looking Forward for a Better Crop.

During the Summer we were obliged to feed our bees, and owing to the poor honey season will have to feed them to keep them through the Winter; yet notwithstanding this, we are not discouraged, but look forward to a more prolific crop next season.

C. EGGLE.

Sigel, Wis., Dec. 20, 1870.

Small Increase and Honey-Crop.

Last Spring I owned 48 colonies of bees, and after swarming I found that they had increased to but 52, and although I obtained but 250 pounds of honey, I find that we will have plenty for our own use.

GEORGE A. KERR.

Lowell, Mich., Dec. 19, 1890.

Good Report.

Bees in this locality are reported as doing well. My 20 colonies, which I started with last Spring, have increased to 38. From them I obtained 1,180 pounds of comb-honey, which brought 12½ cents per pound in the home market.

JAMES W. ADAMS.

Athens, Ky., Dec. 19, 1890.

Old, but Young.

The past season was a very poor one for honey in this section of country, the bees gathering but very little. My 77 colonies, spring count, have increased to 96, and when put into the cellar, 86 were in good condition. I obtained but 1,750 pounds of comb-honey, and 1,500 of extracted-honey. Although in my 81st year, I am still young enough to enjoy reading the BEE JOURNAL.

Eldorado, Wis.

W. C. WOLCOTT.

Looking Backward through the year.

Along the way my feet have pressed,
I see sweet places everywhere—
Sweet places where my soul had rest.

My sorrows have not been so light
The chastening hand I could not trace;
Nor have my blessings been so great
That they have hid my Father's face.

—PHEBE CARY.

Chaff Hives for Winter.

I winter my bees in chaff hives on the Summer stands, using the nonpareil chaff hive containing 8 frames, and 7 by 17 inches, outside measure. I have 80 colonies and prefer the Italians. Very little honey was secured from Fall flowers. I produce both comb and extracted honey, and sell it all in the home market. The past season was a poor one. The surplus was taken between June 8 and July 20. I had 75 colonies in the Spring and obtained 2,000 pounds in the comb and 1,200 pounds of extracted honey. It was gathered from locust, clover and raspberry blossoms. Basswood was a failure. I have had to feed for Winter stores to all but 8 colonies.

A. G. BAYARD.

Cheshire, N. Y.

Breeding too Early.

I have 48 colonies of bees in my cellar, and the larger portion of them are beginning to rear brood. Now is it right for these colonies to commence this early in the season, and will it hurt the wintering of them? Some of these are hybrids and some Italians, and I find that the former are worse than the latter in this respect.

A. E. BRADFORD.

Hammond, Wis., Dec. 20, 1890.

[It is too soon to breed, and the bees will probably dispose of the brood by eating it, or otherwise. No damage to the colonies will result.—Ed.]

Insuring Bees.

To E. L. Plumb, who asks on page 811 concerning the insuring of bees, I will say that I have my bees insured in the Fire Association of Philadelphia for \$400, the rate being 60 cents per \$100, or the whole policy being \$3,200 for three years, including houses, barn, bee-supplies, household goods, etc. I have 113 colonies, and these are insured in the cellar and on the premises.

GEO. H. ASHBY.

Albion, N. Y., Dec. 22, 1890.

Moving Bees—No Losses.

On April 1, I came to this place from Pennsylvania, bringing with me 65 colonies of bees, which stood the journey well. On the 3d of April I placed them, all in fine condition, on their future stands and liberated them. They were out in short order enjoying the warm sunshine. From that time to the white clover bloom, the weather was so unpleasant, that the bees did very little else than fight, dwindle and die, until there were not enough in some of the colonies for a respectable nucleus; so by the time they began to work on white clover, I had but 46 colonies left. By doubling up these I reduced them to 23, and after swarming found I had 15 new colonies. I obtained 600 pounds of white clover and basswood honey in comb, and 100 pounds of extracted honey. I did not get any surplus buckwheat honey, although there was an abundance of it; but take it all in all, my bees were in a very good condition for wintering as far as young bees are concerned.

A. R. TUBBS.

Portville, N. Y., Dec. 20, 1890.

Foul-Brood Treatment.

MR. EDITOR:—In referring to your publication of the essential portions of our *Foul-Brood Bulletin*, on page 819, you say you trust I am now satisfied that you are willing to do your part in disseminating the much-needed information, in reference to the cause and cure of Foul-Brood. Yes, I am now satisfied. You have done the proper thing so far, and no doubt you may be called upon, in the future, to give space to the further discussion of the question, for most people need "line upon line and precept upon precept" in order to get them to do, and to do right. Your correspondent, of a week or two ago, who criticises our plan of treatment and says he failed to cure by it, evidently fails to comprehend some of the essential points in the treatment. I leave the Inspector, Mr. McEvoy, to attend to him and set him right.

Wishing yourself and readers all the compliments, and enjoyment of this season of the year.

ALLEN PRINGLE.

Selby, Ont., Dec. 18, 1890.

[We are always happy in trying to do good, or spread the light. The article by the Inspector appeared last week.—Ed.]

Supply Dealers should write to us for wholesale terms and cut for Hasting's Perfection Feeders.

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The date on the wrapper-label of this paper indicates the end of the month to which you have paid. If that is past, please send us a dollar to pay for another year.

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We Club the *American Bee Journal* for a year, with any of the following papers or books, at the prices quoted in the **LAST** column. The regular price of both is given in the first column. One year's subscription for the *American Bee Journal* must be sent with each order for another paper or book:

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The Apiculturist.....	1 75.... 1 65
Bee-Keepers' Advance.....	1 50.... 1 40
Canadian Bee Journal.....	2 00.... 1 80
American Bee-Keeper.....	1 50.... 1 40
The 8 above-named papers.....	5 75.... 5 00
and Langstroth Revised (Dadant) 3 00....	2 75
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Doolittle on Queen-Rearing. 2 00....	1 75
Bees and Honey (Newman). 2 00....	1 75
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American Poultry Journal.. 2 25....	1 50
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HONEY AND BEESWAX MARKET.

DETROIT, Dec. 25.—Comb Honey is selling at 15@17c. White Clover quite scarce. Extracted, 7@9c. Beeswax, 26@27c.

M. H. HUNT, Bell Branch, Mich.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Market is very quiet, especially on comb honey. We quote: Fancy white 1-lb., 15@16c; 2-lbs., 13@14c; off-grades, 1-lb., 13@14c; 2-lbs., 12c; buckwheat, 1-lb., 11@12c; 2-lbs., 10c. Extracted, basswood and white clover, 8½@9c; buckwheat, 6½@7c; California, 6¾@7¾c; Southern, 65@70c per gallon. Beeswax, 25@27c.

HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELKEN,

28-30 West Broadway.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 26.—Honey is very slow sale, both comb and extracted. We quote white 1-lb. comb, 16@18c; dark, 12@13c; white, 2-lb., 14@15c; dark, 11@12c; extracted, 6@7c. Beeswax, 25c.

CLEMONS, MASON & CO.,

Cor. 4th and Walnut Sts.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 27.—Demand is fair for extracted honey at 6@8 cents. There is a good demand for choice comb honey at 18@20 cents. In the jobbing way. Arrivals are fair of all kinds but Southern extracted, which is scarce.

Beeswax is in good demand at 24@26c, for good to choice yellow. C. F. MUTH & SON, Corner Freeman & Central Aves.

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—New honey arriving very slowly, demand active, and all receipts are taken promptly. We quote: White clover 1-lb., 16@18c; 2-lbs., 14@15c; dark 1-lb., 11@12c; 2-lbs., 9@10c. Extracted meets with quick sale, values ranging from 6½@7½ cts., depending upon quality and style of package. Beeswax, 28@30c.

S. T. FISH & CO., 189 S. Water St.

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—We quote fancy white 1-pound combs, 19@20c; fair to good, 18@19c. No 2-lb. combs in the market. Extracted, 8@9c. No beeswax on hand.

BLAKE & RIPLEY, 57 Chatham Street.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 18.—Fancy white 1-lb. comb, 18c; fair to good, 17c; dark 1-lb., 14@15c; 2-lb. white comb, 15@16c; 2-lb. dark, 13@14c; extracted, white, 7c; dark, 5@6c.

HAMBLIN & BEARSS, 514 Walnut St.

ALBANY, N.Y., Dec. 27, 1890.—The honey market is quiet, but stock is light and prices well sustained. We are selling white at 16@20c; mixed, 14@15c; buckwheat, 12@14c. Extracted, white, 9@10c; amber, 7@7½c; dark, 6@6½c. Beeswax, 27@30c.

H. R. WRIGHT, 326-328 Broadway.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—There is not the volume of trade usual at this season, yet prices are without material change since last quotations. Best lots of white honey in 1-pound sections, brings 17@18c; brown and dark, slow, at uncertain prices. Extracted, 7@8c per pound. Our stock is light, as to quantity, but is kept well up to demand by daily receipts. Beeswax, 27@28c.

R. A. BURNETT, 161 S. Water St.

DENVER, COLO., Dec. 26.—First grade 1-lb. sections, 16@18c. Supply exceeds the demand at present. Beeswax, 25@28c.

J. M. CLARK COM. CO., 1517 Blake St.

A Nice Pocket Dictionary will be given as a premium for only **one new** subscriber to this JOURNAL, with \$1.00. It is a splendid little Dictionary—just right for the pocket. Price, **25 cents**.

Our Sewing Machine.—One who has purchased a Sewing Machine of us, as advertised on page 734, volunteers this statement:

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W. J. PATTERSON.

Sullivan, Ills., Dec. 5, 1890.

Bee-Conventions will be held during the next few months in many localities. The most convenient thing at such gatherings is the Convention Hand-Book. It contains a simple Manual of Parliamentary Law and Rules of Order for Local Bee-Conventions; Constitution and By-Laws for a Local Society; Programme for a Convention, with Subjects for Discussion. In addition to this, there are about 50 blank pages, to make notes upon, or to write out questions, as they may come to mind. They are nicely bound in cloth, and are of the right size for the pocket. We will present a copy for one new subscription to the BEE JOURNAL, besides your own renewal (with \$2 to pay for the same), or 2 subscribers to this HOME JOURNAL may be sent instead of one for the BEE JOURNAL.

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Only a Few complete volumes for 1890 are on hand. If any one desires to have a full set of numbers for binding, they should be sent for soon.